

Governor's Water Augmentation Council

Recycled Water Committee

July 27, 2017 Meeting Summary

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Arizona Department of Water Resources

The Governor's Water Augmentation Council (GWAC) Recycled Water Committee was formed at the October 28, 2016, GWAC meeting. The committee was formed to evaluate the progress made on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability recommendations for reclaimed water, and to consider statewide opportunities for future recycled water projects.

Welcome and Introductions

The committee chair, John Kmiec, introduced the committee members present: Warren Tenney, Philip Richards, Maggie Messerschmidt, Scott Deeny Lawrence Marquez, Joe Olsen, Brad Hill and Tim Thomure. Committee members Bob Lotts and Chuck Graff were unable to attend.

"One Water" Concept and Discussion

Dr. Channah Rock of the University of Arizona presented on the "One Water" concept, and how it is being implemented in Arizona area. One Water is an integrated and inclusive approach to water resource management. Dr. Rock stated that "all water has value and should be managed in a sustainable, inclusive, integrated way." The concept aims to integrate the planning and management of water supply, wastewater and stormwater systems. Additional elements of One Water are a focus on achieving multiple benefits, a systems approach, watershed-scale thinking, partnerships and inclusion and engagement with all stakeholders. Dr. Rock's presentation can be viewed [here](#).

City of Flagstaff Water Resources Manager Erin Young discussed the One Water concept within the context of Flagstaff's current planning effort. She used the example of the City's water portfolio and a list of recharge projects that aid in aquifer replenishment. The application of One Water in Flagstaff has been done through the City's Master Plan. This has been broken down into three steps:

- 1) Projective alternatives (stormwater, water conservation, reuse, local groundwater, Red Gap Ranch and surface water)
- 2) Studies & Analysis (update Master Plan)
- 3) Community Input & Decision.

The full presentation can be viewed [here](#).

There was discussion following the presentation regarding both the potential benefits of the One Water approach and potential barriers to the One Water approach in Arizona.

Enhanced Aquifer Management and Recovery

Arizona Department of Water Resources Deputy Assistant Director, Gerry Walker, gave a presentation on the subject topics. She noted that the presentation was structured to: (1) present some of the concerns that ADWR heard in the enhanced aquifer management process and are still hearing today; and (2) provide information regarding recovery concepts in response to questions from previous meetings. It was noted that there was no consensus from the stakeholders regarding the issues and solutions for enhanced aquifer management (EAM) during the EAM process. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).

Discussion of Recommendations

Mr. Kmiec offered the following language as recommendations to be brought to the full GWAC:

Resolution RWC 2017-001 *In order to ensure the proper stewardship of Arizona's water management and the economic vitality of state, the RWC moves to the GWAC for consideration and recommended approval for the elimination of the year 2025 sunset of long-term storage credit accrual derived from effluent.*

Resolution RWC 2017-002 *In order for the state to continue to lead on water resource policy management and to recognize that all water has value, the RWC moves to the GWAC for consideration and recommended approval that the "cut to the aquifer" for effluent delivered from managed recharge facilities be established as zero percent for annual storage and recovery and 5% for long-term storage credit accrual.*

There was consensus within the committee that both resolutions should move forward as a recommendation to the GWAC. Mr. Tenney said that there will likely be some pushback from the GWAC and it would be wise for this committee to be prepared to answer their questions.

Flagstaff Utilities Director Brad Hill added that the committee should articulate that the goal is something greater than 50% credit for LTSCs of managed effluent recharge facilities.

Closing Remarks

The next Recycled Water Committee meeting has not been scheduled. A proposed future agenda item was a status update from the technical work groups from the ADEQ Rules process.